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KOSOVO:

Damage and Need Assessment in Agriculture

(June-July 1999)

Final report

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What is Co-PLAN?



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Co-PLAN is an Albanian non-profit non-governmental organization that has no political and religious aims and does not participate in political campaigns. Co-PLAN emerged out of a project supported by Dutch and Italian organizations, and carried out in the field of social development and neighborhood improvement, in a low-income irregular neighborhood. The project gained sufficient experience over 1995-1997, institutionalizing itself into an NGO registered by the Court of Tirana (decision No.5284, date 17.10.1997). Co-PLAN aims to support the collective welfare of people, especially to those most in need. The objective of Co-PLAN is to develop pilot actions for habitat improvement through community organizations, working as a kind of “service center” to them. Co-PLAN plays also the role of advocate towards the public sector, and also provides assistance to local and central governments, including consultancy to international agencies working in the field of habitat development.

Main activities of Co-PLAN are: research studies, training courses and seminars, and practical support for communities, local and central authorities, as well as other subjects. In Albania, Co-PLAN focuses its activities in these fundamental objectives: (i) analysis of social, economic, and cultural problems; (ii) identification of strategies and suggestion of ways for habitat development; (iii) dissemination of information related to the problematic of urban and rural life; (iv) presentation of community problems in the entities of Government and Parliament; (v) establishment of relations and exchange of experience with analogue Albanian and foreign organizations. Co-PLAN has a young and vivid staff from the fields of civil engineering, urban and rural planning, architecture, management, economy, social sciences, environment, etc., most trained recently abroad. In a short time Co-PLAN has created a good reputation among Albanian and foreign organizations operating in Albania.

The involvement of Co-PLAN in Kosovo originates back in the time of massive deportation of Kosovars in Albania. Co-PLAN has been working to soften Kosovo refugee crisis in Albania by: (i) strengthening the capacities of Albanian local governments in handling the consequences of crisis; (ii) and assisting directly refugees. Since KFOR troops entered in Kosovo and most of refugees returned back home, Co-PLAN reformulated a new strategy towards Kosovo. Actually, Co-PLAN is working to establish its branch in Kosovo aiming to undertake community-based projects. These objectives are enriched by the request of FAO and the World Bank to undertake a province-wide damage assessment in the sector of agriculture of Kosovo.

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. Team of survey

The team of survey was compounded by:

- *Besnik Aliaj*, director of Co-PLAN, team leader, responsible for reporting
- *Dritan Shutina*, deputy director of Co-PLAN responsible for field survey
- *Luan Deda*, Co-PLAN staff, responsible for data processing.

Co-PLAN subcontracted in Kosovo:

- *RIINVEST Institute for Development Researches*, a local NGO, to handle the identification and selection of interviewers (enumerators), their training and fieldwork, including the necessary logistics, under the close supervision of Co-PLAN. Contact persons are: Mr. *Muhamet Mustafa*, director; Mr. *Nail Reshiti*, economist; Mr. *Ymer Havolli*, staff.
- Mr. *Bashkim Ibrahim*, a local urban and rural planner recently graduated in Tirana.

Co-PLAN subcontracted in Albania its part-time staff:

- Mr. *Llazar Korra*, agriculture and SPSS specialist
- Mr. *Arian Turdiu*, statistics and informatics specialist.

The team worked in close collaboration with:

- Mr. Severin Kodderitzsch, economist, the World Bank, Washington
- Mr. Benoist Veillerette, FAO, World Food Organization
- Mr. Ibrahim Hackaj, agriculture specialist, World Bank Resident Mission in Tirana.

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For more information please see the attached annexes.

C. Acknowledgements

The team of survey acknowledges the contribution of many Kosovo professionals. Special acknowledgements are for the contribution of Mr. Bashkim Kabashi and Mr. Hamdi Gashi (killed by Serb army in 1999), through their qualitative written articles, creating a broader picture about the agriculture of Kosovo.

A special acknowledgement goes for RIINVEST staff and 25 enumerators they identified. We are really devoted to their enormous work in the difficult reality of Kosovo, including the risks of post-war Kosovo.

Co-PLAN acknowledges also the great contribution of its collaborators Mr. Llazar Korra and Mr. Arian Turdiu for their qualitative work in data processing and analysis and report preparation. Without their help would have been difficult to complete this work.

The team of survey thanks FAO and the World Bank for the trust they put on Co-PLAN. A special acknowledgement is for Mr. Benoist Veillerette, Mr. Severin Kodderitzsch and Mr. Ibrahim Hackaj.

II. Background

A. Historical Overview

1. Kosovo became a province of Serbia since the beginning of 20th Century. As an integral part of Albania, Albanians inhabit the province. By and of World War II, Kosovo joined Yugoslavia, a multi-ethnic country of Balkan compounded by 6 republics (Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Macedonia, Montenegro and Bosnia-Herzegovina), and 2 autonomous regions (Kosovo and Vojvodina). Even the third largest community in Yugoslavia (after Serbs and Croats), the Albanians of Kosovo were not allowed to have their own republic. Indeed they have been continuously considered and treated as citizens of “second” importance. The best “flourishing” period for Kosovo has been during Tito’s reigning (1974-1980) period. At that time, province won the status of autonomy, and Albanians controlled main institutions. Cultural relations with the neighboring Albania were somehow relaxed.

2. The death of Tito in 1980 brought back shadows of hard-line Serb nationalism. Albanians reacted towards the movement for “Kosovo Republic”, provoking harsh violence of the federal and Serb authorities. Since that time the autonomy of Kosovo has been reduced and practically forbidden, especially after the empowerment of Slobodan Milosevic. In practice, all province’ institutions passed under the control of Serbs, and many Albanians were forced to leave their country. By early 90s, the political conscience of Kosovo’ Albanians was reformulated through the “peaceful resistance” and “parallel institutions” under the leadership of Ibrahim Rugova. However, the radicalization of Serb oppression, inspired more radical Albanian reaction, too. KLA (Kosovo Liberation Army) an armed resistance transformed soon from small units of guerrilla in a real army, and the “hunting” of Serb military forces turned out in a bloody ethnic conflict.

3. The increasing of the number of civilian victims and displacements of several thousands Kosovars during 1998, raised international concern. In February 1999, peace talks were organized in Rambouillet (France) under the close supervision of USA, EU and Russia. Whereas, Kosovars signed the peace accord, Serb delegation refused the signature. In contrary, Serb authorities demonstrated higher military presence in the province. Furthermore, almost 1 million Kosovars were forcefully deported to neighboring countries. Such arrogance provoked indignation of the international community, whom acted both; through big humanitarian operations and heavy air strikes of NATO. In July 1999, Serb military retreated from Kosovo, as a peace accord was achieved with NATO, transferring the province under the protectorate of the international community. Actually, the main objectives of UN/KFOR/OSCE are: (i) the restoration of order and cleaning of mines; (ii) the return of refugees back home, including the emergency food, shelter supply and winterization; (iii) reconstruction of the country and rehabilitation of the economy; (iv) setting up public administration and restoration of a democratic political system up to the free democratic elections.

B. Agriculture Background

4. The agriculture in Kosovo has mainly the characteristics of developing countries. What farm produces goes mainly to fulfil its own needs. Eventually, the agriculture in Kosovo has shown slighter growth rates compared to that of population. Based on the last population census of 1981, almost 67.5% of the national population lived in rural areas, and 24% dealt with agriculture.

5. There are 1,090,800 ha agriculture land about of which 67% is privately owned. Land is classified into eight categories of productivity: (i) *category I* = 17.5%; (ii) *categories (II+III)* = 7%; (iii) *categories (IV+V)* = 15.5%; (iv) *category VI* = 38%; (v) *categories VII+VIII* = 20% of the total. About 53 percent of the land is used for cultivating crops, 40 percent as forest and remaining for other purposes. Crop structure is composed by annual crops (51 percent), 2% orchards; 2% vineyards and 15% meadows. Part of the best agricultural land (26.4 percent) is diverted to urban uses. In addition, erosion is becoming a serious problem that deserves special attention as more than 50 percent of the land is getting eroded.

6. Kosovo climate is considered as continental. However, there are differences between the western side (the high plain of Dukagjini, 500 meters of altitude), the eastern side (the high plain of Kosovo, 500-1,000 meters of altitude), as well as the peripheral mountain areas (1,500-2,500 meters of altitude). *The western side* is influenced by Mediterranean climate, penetrating from Albania throughout the valley of White Drini river. The average annual rainfall is 780 mm, of which 329 mm during the growing season (April-September), and 150 mm during summer months (June-August). The annual average temperature is 11.5°C. Sum of temperature goes up to 4,200°C, from which 3,299 during the vegetation period. The period without frosts involves in average 196-225 days. The hottest months are July and August (21.8-21.4°C), and the coldest month is January (-0.6°C). *The eastern side* has in average 660 mm rainfall, 324 out of which during the growing season and 159 mm during summer months. The annual average of temperatures is about 10°C. The annual total of temperatures involve up to 3,650°C, out of which 3,019°C are during the vegetation period. The period without frosts continues in 172-201 days. The hottest months are July-August (20°C) and the coldest one is January (-1.1°C)

7. There are two main irrigation systems in Kosovo: “Ibër-Lepenc”, northern region; and “Radoniqi”, southwest region. They cover 14-20% of the total arable land. Main irrigation water resources are: (i) the reservoir of “Badovci” within Gracanica river (near Prishtina), with a capacity of 31.6 million m³ of water; (ii) the reservoir of “Batllava” within Batllava river, with a volume of 35 million m³ of water; (iii) the reservoir of “Livoci”, between Morava and Binca rivers, with a capacity of 1.5 million m³ of water; (iv) the reservoir of “Gazivoda” within Ibër river, with a capacity of 370 million m³ of water; (v) and the reservoir of “Radoniqi” between Bistrica, Decani and Locani rivers, with a capacity of 113 million m³ of water.

8. Although some important agricultural inputs such as fertilizers have amounted up to 386 kg/ha of cultivated land in 1986, agricultural production remains still below European levels including Yugoslavia too. Wheat and corn have dominated crop structure, and area cultivated with vegetables or other crops has never been of importance in Kosovo’s economy. Thus, in total, other crops occupied 27,000 hectares from which vegetables 5,500 ha, orchards 12,000 ha, vineyards 9,500 ha, etc. The production of livestock farms has been very low, too. In late 70s for example, milk production per cow in Western countries was 4,300 liters/year, in Eastern countries was 2,623 liters/year, in Yugoslavia was 1,460 liters/year, while in Kosovo it was 1,115 liters/year. The biggest number of cattle has been in 1991 (426,000 heads). The number of pork is relatively small (70,000 heads). As regarding sheep number, it has been very constant with 400,000 heads during 1985-1995. Finally, poultry farming in Kosovo experienced rapid development, having in 1991 around 10 times more poultry (5,273 million) than mid-50s.

C. Objectives and Methodology of the Assessment

9. As part of their efforts to contribute to the reconstruction of agriculture sector in Kosovo, the *Food and Agriculture Organization* (FAO) jointly with the *World Bank* undertook an *Agriculture Sector Damages Assessment Survey* throughout the province of Kosovo during the period of late 9 July to 31 August 1999. This survey is the first systematic assessment of damages of the recent war in this province, providing FAO and the World Bank the basis for future sector analysis and project implication. The survey was carried out on the basis of a questionnaire jointly developed by FAO and the World Bank, and tested in the field with the participation of Co-PLAN, Center for Habitat Development, Tirana Albania, the organization contracted to carry out this mission.

10. The basic premise of considering the perceived needs of the populations directly or indirectly affected by project interventions is that interventions should satisfy the needs and priorities of the populations they are intended to benefit in ways that are culturally acceptable. To determine the perceived needs and other social aspects after the war is carried out a social assessment. This social assessment was undertaken to evaluate the social-economic effects of the war in the agriculture sector of Kosovo and identify the priority needs of the farmers for investments. To achieve these objectives we used a household survey focused on population of the villages, farm areas and main crops cultivated, agriculture machinery, livestock and agriculture services. The information obtained by the needs-assessment, therefore, is integral to a broader social assessment or social impact analysis.

11. As FAO and the World Bank have agree, the survey based on a stratified random sample design with two sets of questionnaires - village and farm household questionnaire- for all communes of the province. Around 160 villages were planned to be selected randomly, and within each village a number of households were also planned to be selected randomly for interviews. In fact, a total of 24 communes, 163 villages and 1,804 farm households were interviewed. The number of villages per commune and farm households per village was based on the damage weights originating from other damage assessment already undertaken in the province. The contents of questionnaires are discussed and agreed with FAO and the World Bank, commented by agriculture specialists in Kosovo, tested in the terrain by Co-PLAN and translated in Albanian language, too. Prior to launching the survey and in collaboration with the Kosovo organization RIINVEST, Institute for Development Researches, Co-PLAN ensured the selection and training of an adequate number of Kosovo qualified and experienced enumerators. A systematic supervision was undertaken to guarantee both the qualities of enumerators' fieldwork and data collecting, too. The data processing is done based on the SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Science) software. Fieldwork in Kosovo continued between 01-10 August 1999. Data processing/analysis and reporting were carried out in the Tirana Co-PLAN during August 11 - September 31, 1999.

12. Administratively Kosovo has been organized in 29 districts, locally known as "communes". Given the post-war reality in Kosovo, including the temporary institutional vacuum up to a complete establishment of protectorate institutions in Kosovo, real difficulties were encountered during the fieldwork. For this reasons the survey could cover 25 (Decan, Ferizaj, Fushë Kosovë, Glogovc, Gjakovë, Gjilan, Istog, Kacanik, Kamenicë, Klinë, Lipjan, Malishevë, Mitrovicë, Obiliq, Pejë, Podujevë, Prishtinë, Prizren, Rahovec, Skënderaj, Suharekë, Shterpçë, Shtimje, Viti, Vushtrri) out of 29 communes, whereas the rest of 4 communes were practically inaccessible either because of difficult access (tension among

Serbs and Albanians, destroyed or poor infrastructure, mined terrain, no protection from KFOR ensured, etc.) or simply because the local population was yet not returned back home. The communes not covered by survey (Leposaviq, Zubin Potok, Dragash, Novobërdë) should be objects of an additional survey, when the social situation will allow a normal fieldwork.

For more information about fieldwork please see the attached annex2.

D. Sampling

13. Population of Kosovo counts about 2.17 million of people and rural population makes up more than 66 percent (UNCHR, 1999). As we have described above, there are 29 communes and 1928 villages mostly dominated by Albanian population. In general, 25 out of 29 communes comprise a homogenous population of Albanians. Therefore, the approximation of present situation and war damages becomes more reliable and closer to reality. However, we must take in consideration the nature of humans who manipulate their own figures driven by personal interest.

14. The purpose of the study is to draw out figures close to reality. Thereby, all communes have to be represented by an appropriate and random selected sample of villages and households which weighting brings to regional figures. Thus, 25 communes and 164 villages were selected. In general, one village represented about 9,000 people. Consecutively, choosing 11 households per village resulted with a final of 1,837 households. Nevertheless, we cannot rely on village or household numbers to capture the entire region without significant errors. The estimation of household size from the field-collected data appeared a consistent element in defining the representation coefficient at village level. The weight each village has in entire region has resulted as a product of two coefficients. The "*commune*" coefficient is the ratio between the population of commune as defined by UNCHR and population of selected villages. The "*village*" coefficient is the ratio between each selected village and the population of sampled households. The second coefficient appears of being determinant in approaching real results as great variation on household size has been observed from the collected data.

For more information about sampling and methodology of the survey please see Annex 2.

III. KEY FINDINGS

15. The social assessment covered a wide-range of issues and generated data that have important implications for the design and implementation of projects. This section describes the findings in three parts: (i) *the first part*, summarizes the general social-economic conditions, including demographic conditions before and after the war and agriculture services; (ii) *the second part*, presents the findings related to farm assets, incomes, etc.; (iii) *the third one*, presents the findings on priority needs.

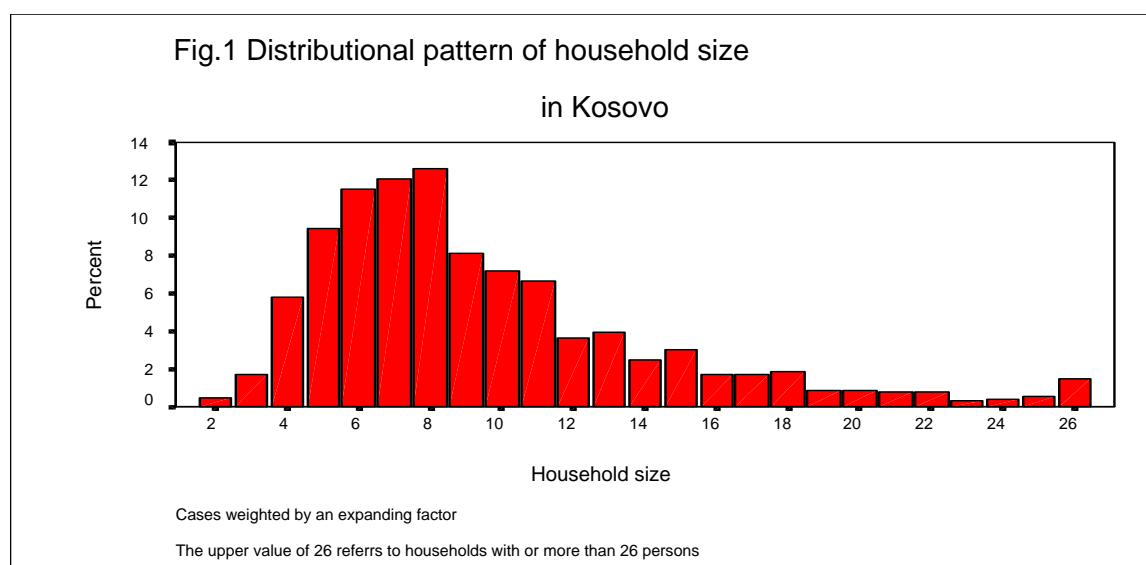
A. Social Economic Conditions

Household data

16. The region of Kosova displays a different pattern of household composition formed under specific geo-political situations. The traditional extended household has resisted to modern times probably because of continuous conflict with Serbian government that always has applied an unfriendly policy of discrimination and ethnic cleansing.

17. As regarding the answers given in the survey, head of the household provided most of the information (61.5 percent), spouses (10.9 percent) and other adult members of the household (28.6 percent). Therefore, some error because of the subjectivity of opinions cannot be avoided.

18. At present, Kosovo households in rural areas count an average of 9.64 members. As shown in the figure 1, about 75 percent of the households have between 4-11 members. Nevertheless, large households with 20, 30 or more persons are not rare. In addition, sub-regional differences are observed. For example, a group of communes forming a belt in the border with Albania have on average 11.76 persons per household as compared to 9.03 from other sub-regions. At some extent, it looks similar to Albanian highlands where households have been historically large (for more details see the attached [table 1](#)).



19. Agriculture is the main activity of rural areas in providing employment. About 92.9 percent of households are involved with farming. There are communes where this figure is above the average such as in Decan, Fushe Kosova, Istog, Kacanik, Lipjan, Obiliq, Peja, podujeva, Prishtina, Shtrepca, and Suhareka. About 35 percent of rural population work in the farms. It means that agriculture employs more than 70 percent of labor force. Nevertheless, there are communes where more than 50 percent of population is engaged in agriculture such as Istog, and Peja. We are not sure whether the war has changed the opinion of Albanians to keep on with farming. As a matter of fact, a two directional state of opinions is observed. There are non-farming households that want to deal with farming and farming households that want to quit farming. In total, about 12 percent of the households intend to quit farming. The communes in the border with Albania display a figure below the average. The areas where people want the most to quit farming are observed in communes of Fushe Kosova (33.9 percent), Gora (31.8 percent), Gjilan (28.8 percent), and Prishtina (23.8 percent). Reasons on this difference are still to be investigated but might have some relation to urban migration (table 2, 2.1).

20. Most of the households that want to cease farming (63.5 percent) have not decided what to do next. Undoubtedly, some of these households will change mind after the atrocities of the war have faded a little or when they see that a serious attempt in establishing the situation is undertaken by local people along with foreign donors. Others want to be employed in the public sector (13.4 percent), probably driven by the idea that many Albanians will now make part of the region administration or return back to their previous jobs (table 2.2).

Consequences of war

21. According to the figures extracted from the sample (1837 households), 93 persons were killed, 152 were missing, and 110 wounded (table 1.1). As these households represent more than 147 thousand households from 25 out of 29 communes of Kosovo, anyone can produce an approximated figure on war casualties. Our opinion is that individual based data appear more reliable than those provided by village representatives either from preciseness of information or sampling errors produced by the small number of selected villages relative to total number at commune level. Therefore, to avoid misunderstandings or erroneous interpretation of the data, individual data are weighed by calculated coefficients, while most of the village data are presented at sample level except cases when comparisons have to be made. At Kosovo level, 3.8 percent of the households had in average 1.31 persons killed. This figure is the highest in the commune of Istog where 10 percent of the households had in average 2.07 persons killed. In terms of killed and missing persons, the most affected communes are Istog (2.6 percent of the population), Gllogovc and Skenderaj (2.5 percent), Suhareke (1.8 percent), and Vushtri (2.2 percent). Nevertheless, the danger from land mines is still great despite that 52.8 percent of the farmers felt secure about the absence of mines in their surroundings.

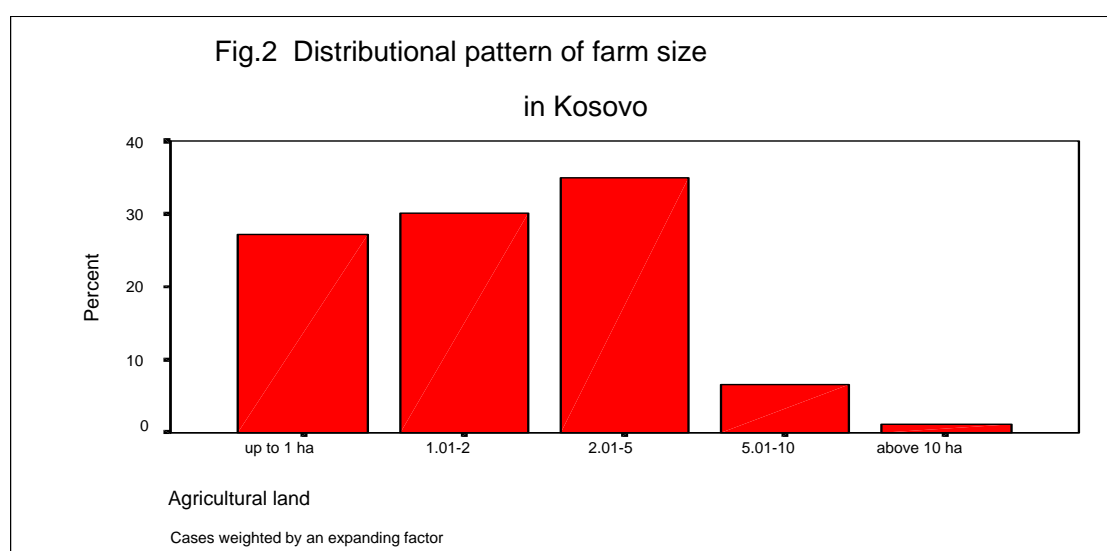
22. More or less, the great exodus implicated about 80 percent of Albanian households of rural Kosova. About 70 percent of the households moved completely out of their homes while 10 percent left someone at home. Only 20 percent of households didn't move from their home. There are communes such as Decan, Fushe Kosova, Gora, Istog, and Obiliq where most of the households took refugee abroad and nobody remained at home. On the other hand, there are also communes where most of the population remained at home such as Kamenica (78.5 percent), Shtimje (78.1 percent), and Viti (84.2 percent). In addition, there are still about 17 percent of the households that moved away not having returned back home. This figure is

higher in communes of Shtrepce, Prishtina and Podujeva. For more details see the attached Table 3. and 3A

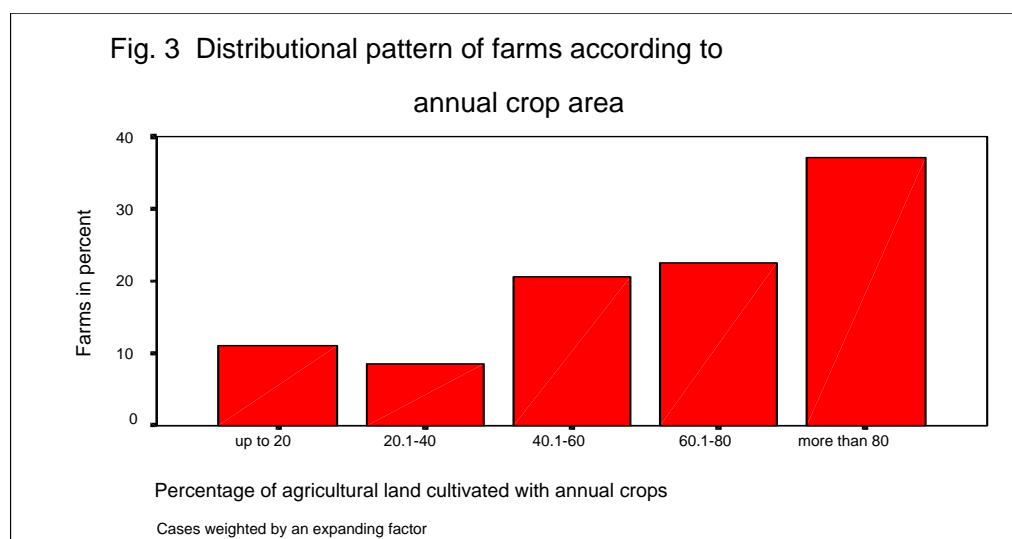
B. Assets and Income of Farm

Land use

23. Almost, all rural households have some land (98.3 percent). The average amount of land per household is 3.22 hectares from which 2.43 hectares are agricultural land. The ratio of agricultural land over the total land differs among communes. Thus, in communes of Gora, Fushe Kosova, Obiliq, Shtimje, and Vitia it is above 96 percent against to an average of 75 percent. Generally, agriculture is predominated by small farms whose average size is only 2.43 hectares. Farms with less than 1 hectare of agricultural land make up 27.3 percent of the total. Of course, this varies among communes. Thus, in communes of Fushe-Kosova, Gora, Mitrovica, and Obiliq small farms make up from 42.9 to 57.6 percent of the total (table 4). There are few larger farms above 5 hectares mainly concentrated in communes of Gjakova (9.5 percent of the total), Prishtina (11.1 percent), and Skenderaj (7.9 percent).



24. Crop structure is predominated by annual crops (64.8 percent) followed by cultivated pastures (30.2 percent) and fruit trees (5.0 percent). Almost all households (94.4 percent) cultivate annual crops such as wheat, corn, potatoes and some vegetables. Wheat and corn occupy more than 90 percent of the cultivated area. The number of households growing fruit trees or using land as pasture is smaller, respectively 42 and 65 percent of farming households. Cultivated pasture and meadows play an important role in farming particularly in communes of Decan, Gjakova, Gora, Istog, Peja, and Shtrepca making up more than 33 percent of total land. While, perennial crops occupy only 3 percent of total land and only in communes of Suhareka, Peja, Prizren, Rahovec, and Vushtria they have some importance making 6-10 percent of the total land. In addition, about 45.5 percent of the households own at average 1.73 hectares of forest that serves for fire wood or timber (table 5, 5.1).



25. Apparently, water doesn't seem a main constraint to production given the climate. From village data results that 39.3 percent of agricultural land has an irrigation system that according to village people could be expanded up to 42.9 percent. Areas of Decan, Istog, Klina, Peja, Gjakova and Obiliq have a good coverage by existing irrigation schemes of more than 75 percent of agricultural land area. In communes of Gora, Kamenica, Ferizaj, Prizren, Rahovec, Shtimja, and Suhareka there is a potential in increasing the area under irrigation that should be taken under consideration by specific projects targeting irrigation. From 1990 to 1997, only 60-63 percent of that area was irrigated despite the existence of some irrigation system. By 1999, irrigated area decreased sharply by 92 percent. As of the sample data, 31.9 percent of the irrigation system is still functional, 35.2 percent is partially functional and the remaining or 32.9 percent is out of use. From the data results that 48 percent of full coverage irrigation systems are out of use. Communes of Decan, Gllokovc, Mitrovice, Obiliq, Prishtine, and Vushtri could face some problems with the activating of irrigation schemes (tables 6A, 6.1A).

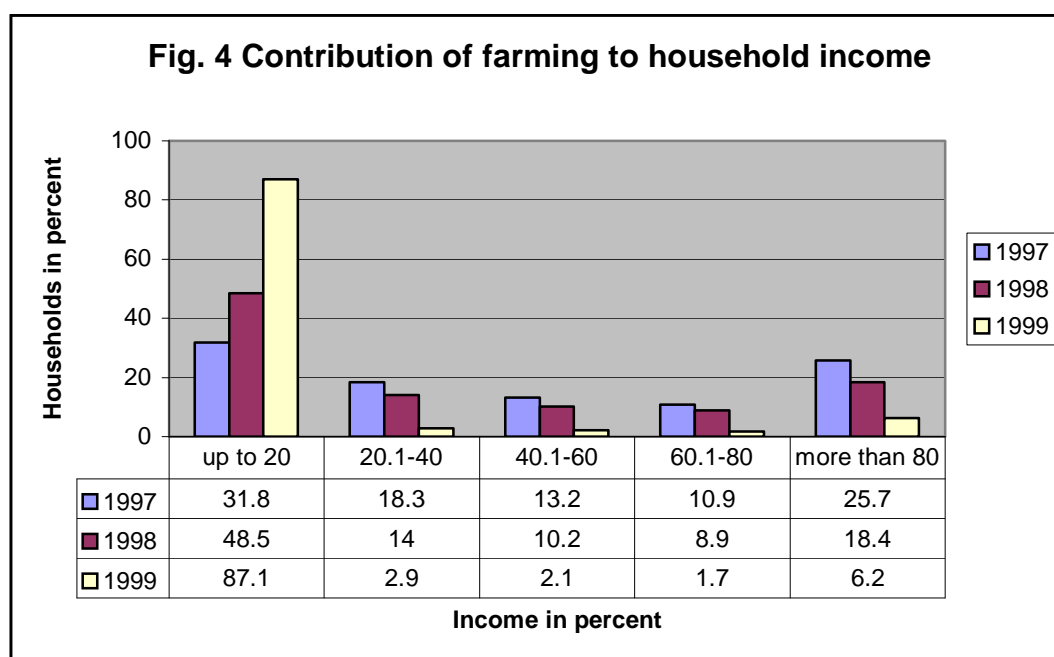
26. Since 1998, area with annual crops dropped markedly. Consequently, the share of crop production in farm income diminished to lower levels. During 1999, farmers in communes of Decan, Istog, Mitrovica, Peja, and Rahovec did not cultivate any crop at all.

Box 1: Crop production in 1998 and 1999 as compared to 1997

Crop	Acreage decrease in percent with respect to 1997	
	1998	1999
Wheat	22.2	75.2
Corn	20.0	87.3
Potatoes	25.0	91.7

27. There is also evidence of damages in fruit trees in the survey. However, the information on the nature of damage is missing. About 50 percent of the fruit trees area have been reported as damaged. In communes of Mitrovica, Rahovec, Suhareke, Skenderaj, Prizren, Istog, Gjakova, and Glllogovc the damaged area ranges from 51.1 to 90.3 percent. It remains unclear the contribution that this sub-sector will have on farm income particularly for households that rely in fruit production activity (table 5).

28. Undoubtedly, the massive exodus of Albanians was clearly reflected in agriculture. About 70 percent of the agricultural land remained uncultivated as most of the population was forced to leave off their homes just before the spring season. In addition, part of the machinery got damaged or stolen resulting in reduced capacity of land tilling. One serious problem stands for the capability of rural households to face winter hardships given the severe shortage in grains and other farm products. It is necessary that vulnerable groups of population whose main source of income comes from farming be sorted out and assisted with donations or through social networks.



29. On average, contribution of farming on household income has decreased from 50.2 percent in 1997 to 11.2 percent in 1999. A drastic reduction of income from farming is observed in communes of Decan, Fushe Kosova, Gjakova, Istog, Obiliq, Peja, Podujeva, Rahovec, Suhareka, and Vushtria where contribution fell at almost zero level. Meanwhile, the contribution of remittances from abroad and donations increased until in 1999 making up more than 68 percent of household income and in some specific areas almost 100 percent (table 8.1, 8.2, 8.3). In 1997, farming (fig.4) was contributing from 80-100 percent in about 25.7 percent of households. But, in special cases as in the commune of Rahovec this figure appears 51.1percent. Translated in absolute figures, it means that more than 360 thousand of people will face severe nutrition problems unless other sources are quickly provided (table 8.1.1).

Farm buildings

30. Many farm buildings have been completely damaged or are temporarily out of use. Western TV has constantly provided evidence of destroyed houses and farm buildings. Data from this survey present a reliable and accurate information on the magnitude of such damages as the survey interviewers were ocular witnesses of such situation. The greatest damages to houses has been inflicted to people of Skenderaj (93.5 percent), Istog (81.6 percent), Vushtri (77.7 percent), Decan (73.6 percent), Rahovec (70.1 percent), Peja (65.7 percent), Glllogovc (65.4 percent), and Suhareka (49.7 percent). Almost, the same communes have suffered major damages to other farm buildings such as barns, storage and machinery hangars. Therefore,

special attention should be paid to these areas before winter makes their living too hard (tables 9.1 to 9.6).

Box 2: Status of farm buildings in 1999

Farm building	Total	Present status of farm buildings		
		Completely demolished	Partially damaged	No damage
Houses	149123	65165	40860	43098
Stable	133132	47450	14199	71483
Storage	117288	52219	7293	57776
Machinery shed	92696	33383	6149	53164
Water well	133342	14795	16303	102244

Farm livestock

31. Animal raising has played an important role in sustaining household nutrition needs and contributing with cash from sales. In 1998, in 1 hectare of agricultural land were raised 1.01 milking cows, 1.60 sheep and goats, 0.06 pigs, 13.82 various kinds of poultry, and 0.40 horses, mules or donkeys. But, as effect of war, these figures have respectively been decreased to 0.50 cows, 0.53 sheep and goats, 0.04 pigs, 2.14 poultry, and 0.05 horses, mules and donkeys (tables 10.1.to 10.3, and 10A to 10.1A).

Box 3: Losses of farm livestock

	Households reporting losses	Households that probably have lost all animals	Reported damage in heads	Reduction of stock in percent
Cows	74397	41759	180044	49.7
Sheep	6935	5077	316176	65.5
Goats	2891	2132	48504	75.5
Pigs	1356	770	5652	19.4
Poultry	93674	61611	4073025	84.5
Horse/mule/donkeys	15008	13037	22840	86.5

32. As seen from the above figures, the reduction of animals in most of categories has been more than 50 percent and in some cases, such as; poultry or horses more than 8 times. The intensity of damage is different among various communes. For example, the number of cows in communes of Obiliq, Decan, Fushe-Kosova, Glllogovc, Klina, Skenderaj, and Peja has been reduced respectively by 82.1, 79.9, 76.3, 68.1, 64.8, and 62.5 percent. Also, as the reduction of other animals has been too high, it seems unnecessary to list communes but it can be said that in some areas such as Decan the extermination of sheep has occurred. On the other hand, only 4,300 households has raised pigs, therefore their role in household nutrition appears as irrelevant compared with other animals mainly for religion purposes.

33. It appears that restoring lost animals becomes an extremely important issue for people of Kosova and their administration. First, food shortage is expected to prevail in some areas heavily hit by the war where people lack external sources of money. About 67.3 percent of households reported that their milk production goes exclusively for personal consumption (table 11). On the other side, 63 percent of these households or about 23,400 have lost all their cows. For example, only in communes Decan, Fushe Kosova, and Obiliq where most of the milk goes for household consumption, there are about 4,970 households without any cow

(table 1.1). By the way, facing winter in such conditions looks very hard. These figures urge the immediate consideration of the case when a clear account of situation has been presented.

Box 4: Destination of milk production in Kosovo

Selected communes	Milk destination						All ways
	Dairy plant	Market	Personal consumption	Dairy plant and market	Dairy plant and consumption	Market and consumption	
Vushtri	41.7	37.0	20.6		0.7		
Decan		14.2	69.5			16.3	
Peja	4.5	23.6	41.3			30.6	
Total	5.1	12.3	67.3	0.1	1.1	13.9	0.2

34. A complete evidence of grain and animal inventory is necessary to measure the capacity and endurance of groups of people to pass throughout winter. Despite a reduced number of animals, there is still a shortage of animal feed caused by scarce harvests of 1999. About half of the farmers who raises livestock responded they have not enough feed to overcome the winter. In communes of Fushe Kosova, Peja, Rahovec, and Suhareka similar figures were pessimistic. While, 13.5 percent of farmers were uncertain about the problem (table 12).

35. Concerning the animal health situation, only 7.8 percent of the farmers who raise livestock confirmed of having some diseased animal. The major number of diseased animals was reported from areas such as Prishtina, Prizren, Ferizaj, Glogoc, Suhareke, Skenderaj, and Rahovec. Nevertheless, 24.3 percent of reported cases belonged to wounded animals rather than infective diseases, and 26.5 percent of the farmers were not able to describe any disease. According to our opinion based on scarce diagnosis it could be deduced that the most spread diseases were *pneumonia* and *mastitis*. At a smaller degree, it was assumed the presence of *tuberculosis*, *foot and mouth*, and *piroplasmiasis*. However, an "in situ" verification could be helpful in highlighting the incidence of diseases and prevent possible outbreak of dangerous ones that could further reduce the animal stock and compromise the future of people (tables 13 and 13.1).

36. As many diseases are related to bad nutrition of animals that might be caused by shortage of feed during the winter, it is necessary to reassess the capacity of veterinary services to cover almost all the area. Nearly 67 percent of the sampled villages reported in having some veterinary service. Based on the sample the veterinary coverage is as following: over 80 percent (47.7 percent of villages), 60.1-80 percent (9.9 percent of villages), 40.1-60 percent (18.9 percent of villages), 20.1-40 percent (12.6 percent of villages), and less than 20 percent (10.8 percent of villages). More than 50 percent of villages in communes of Prizren, Rahovec, Suhareke, Vushtri, Fushe Kosova, and Gjakove suffer from the lack of veterinary service. Thus, helping these people means to make them optimistic in investing for their future (table 13.2A).

37. In this context, we should consider the future of agricultural production in the region. How farmers of Kosova will replace lost animals and ensure a stable and decent income from farming? There are needed several years to replace lost animals and return back to pre-war levels only, if abundant feed, satisfactory veterinary service and well managed reproduction of herd are ensured.

38. Another issue is restoring animal inventory, which means also an increased milk and meat supply to urban market and processing industries. In few areas such as Prizren, Rahovec and Suhareke agro-processing industries still work. There, farmers have had a cooperation agreement since 1997 and still promise to respect that. On the other hand, 33.3 percent of collection points are still working, mainly in the areas of Decan, Gjakove, and Istog, while in other areas, most of the milk collection points are shut down. Consequently, the average distance from producers to milk collector has increased. In areas of Gjilan, Gore, Lipjan, Podujeve and Shtimje that distance is over 17 kilometers. It is hard to predict how farmers are going to use their milk production. It is also necessary to know how pricing system operates in Kosova market. At the moment, the high demand might drive animal-origin products away from industries or even from urban consumers causing a temporary unemployment and reduction of wages. As workers are in the same time consumers, shut down of industries can slow down investments in livestock (tables 14.1A, 14.2A).

39. In addition, we need to remember that a relevant damage is caused to farm buildings such as stables and feed storage. As result, investments in livestock do not include only herd reproduction but also ensuring appropriate housing and feeding conditions to animals.

Farm machinery

40. Kosova has a large number of tractors and other mobile agricultural machines. It recalls East Asian agriculture model characterized by small farms but well equipped with machinery. More than 64 percent of farmers have a tractor, motor-cultivator or combine harvester. In 1998, there were 1 tractor in 4.2 hectares of agricultural land, 1 motor-cultivator in 14.6 hectares and 1 combine harvester in 105 hectares (table 15). This extremely large number of agricultural machines might raise the doubt over the way the information was ensured. Data from village representatives show a smaller number of machinery. Thus there are reported 14.1 percent less tractors, 25.8 percent less motor-cultivators and 56.7 percent less combine harvesters (table 15A). Nevertheless, there is still a consistent number of agricultural means despite of humans desire to overestimate their own misfortune (compare number of tractors with number of ploughs and machinery shed). But, number of such mean remains high and this has its reasons. Our opinion is that remittances from abroad have been a relevant source of money in financing such enormous investment given the small size of farms. The answer must be sought in the political and demographic situation of Kosova. Discrimination in job hiring and scarce investments in the region has forced many of Kosovars to seek wealth outside their homes. Increasing an independent economic wealth of the household in Kosova has been a clever strategy that aimed the preservation of national pride and identity. On the other hand, it is assumed that a large number of agricultural vehicles are also purchased for other purposes, especially for transporting of goods and people. In a way, people wanted to be independent also from public services.

41. Domestic market has been predominant in supplying tractors and other machines to farmers. Almost, all the tractors have been Yugoslav or East European production such as *IMT* (70 percent of the entire stock), *Rakovica* (14.6 percent), *Universal* (2.1 percent), *Ursus* (1.1 percent), and other types (4.4 percent). *Masey Ferguson* was the only Western brand with 5.2 percent. Remittances from abroad along with affordable prices of domestic tractors have contributed in increasing their number through years. Most of the tractors are from 1 to 10 years old (47.1 percent) and few of them older than 20 years (10.8 percent)(table 15.1.1). Last decade events in Kosova are associated with an increased rate of emigration that consecutively

has augmented the money flow to parents or relatives residing in countryside. Certainly, this action might have been as a protection mean to override the negative effects of Serbian policy toward Kosovars.

42. The structure of combine harvesters was based mostly on the *ZMAJ* types (58.0 percent) and *Masey Ferguson* (16.4 percent). In general, combines are acquired in the range of 20 years. About 43.4 percent of combines are from 1-10 years old (tables 15.3 and 15.3.1). It can be a matter of coincidence but 42 percent of 1-10 year old combines are lost or do not work at all. For older combines this figure appears 18.3 percent. Contrary to tractors that have been used for transport, most of the combines were subject of looting or damage. In addition, new combines have high prices in the market, therefore possessing one has become a profitable business under war situations.

43. In 1998, the percentage of farmers having more than one tractor or another machinery was relatively low. Nevertheless, they have been functioning as real service centers.

Box 5: Percentage of farmers having machinery and respective number of machines

Machines	Percentage of farmers having machinery	Distribution of farms according to number of machines			
		1	2	3	4
Tractors	55.7	94.6	5.0	0.1	0.3
Motor-cultivators	16.0	97.1	2.0	0.9	
Combines	2.0	87.7	8.9	3.4	

44. Similarly to animals and farm buildings, machinery could also not escape from being destroyed or stolen. There are communes where the degree of damages of tractors is relatively higher than the region' average. Thus, in Decan was lost 43.9 percent of tractors, in Istog 50.3 percent, in Obiliq 47.3 percent and Skenderaj 53.8 percent (tables 15.3.1, 15.3.3). However, the number of working tractors is still high compared to the size of farms. As in the last years, remittances will continue to contribute in mitigating losses according to priorities established by farmers. An increased demand for mechanized services will drive farmers to higher revenues as a larger area will be covered by their services. The main problem remains that certain group of people would not be able to afford services because of higher prices.

Box 6: Physical status of agricultural machines

Machine	Total	Physical status of agricultural machines (in percent of the total)					
		Lost	Don't work	Few repairs	Some repair	A lot of repair	Function
Tractors	83664	22.8	5.9	4.6	8.3	13.0	45.4
Motor-cultivator	24029	39.2	6.7	4.3	7.9	10.0	31.9
Combines	3336	26.6	6.7	9.6	11.4	12.5	29.5

45. There are many villages (62.2 percent of the total) that complain about the lack machinery repair services. In communes of Gjakova, Glllogovc, Istog, Mitrovice, Rahovec, and Vushtri, such service is not in place. There are areas where this service is closed because of war damages or other reasons. As result, farmers or Decan or Glllogovc cannot repair their machines (table 16A). There is still a huge inventory of defected machines that need repairing. Therefore, setting up such services remains a priority as 25.9 percent of tractors, 22.2 percent of motor-cultivators, and 43.5 percent of combine harvesters are still idle waiting to be

repaired. Obviously, putting these services to work is not a primary priority of villages as water supply, education and mines detection have just been shown of great concern. Although, crediting few people to set up such machinery repair centers appears a feasible and convincing solution when compared with the demand for new tractors or other machinery. Donor funded programs could attempt such initiative after a detailed study on the situation and needs of farmers for such services.

Other farm machines

46. Kosovo farms have been well equipped with farm machines such as ploughs, sowing machines, harrows, cultivators, forage machines, fertilizer spreaders and spraying machines. The consequences of war have been hard for farmers as about 50 percent of their machinery was lost or turned out of use (tables from 17.1 to 17.5). The greatest damage is caused to high-priced machines. This leads to the assumption that looting of valuable machinery has been a well-targeted objective.

Box 7: Situation of farm machines in Kosovo in 1999

Machines	Number in 1998	Present situation in percent (August, 1999)			
		Lost	Out of use	Need repair	In work
Ploughs	95418	34.7	4.3	2.6	57.4
Sowing machines	15657	62.1	8.8	1.6	27.5
Harrows, cultivators	38165	59.4	5.6	2.3	32.7
Forage machines	38788	69.3	5.2	1.5	24.0
Other machines	98283	44.8	4.9	2.6	47.7

47. There are communes that have lost more than half of their machinery inventory such as Decan (65.9 percent), Istog (68.4 percent), Rahovec (63.9 percent), Suhareke (60.8 percent), Fushe Kosova (61.5 percent). There are also cases when specific machines have totally disappeared. Thus, Decan has no more sowing machines, while in communes of Istog and Fushe Kosova forage-making machines were wiped out. Only few harrows and cultivators were left in communes of Istog, Gllogovc and Skenderaj.

Mechanized services offered by farmers

48. Around 42 percent of farmers offered their services to others. With few exceptions, the average area served per household is about 5 hectares or very insignificant. Many machinery-possessing farmers rendered 1-3 different kind of mechanized services. Land tilling appears the most common work (88.5 percent), followed by transporting (76.4 percent), cultivating (31.8 percent), mowing (22.1 percent) and harvesting (13 percent). Thus, 19.9 percent of machinery operators did only one kind of work; 38.1 percent of operators have carried out two kinds of works; 33.5 percent have carried out three; 5.6 percent have done four kinds of work; and the remaining (2.9 percent) have carried out all five requested services (tables from 18 to 18.6).

49. As a considerable part of the agricultural machines has been stolen or destroyed, it becomes improbable that farmers offer again the same services. Some of them have lost the tractor and other the machinery attached to it. This kind of mismatching between tractors and implements could result in a disadvantage for many farmers. Co-operation between farmers in borrowing, exchanging or purchasing machines seems a viable way in making the situation smoother. The second way stands on the establishment of machine-repair centers. A

combination of both ways might also produce a better result considering that part of farmers will purchase machines by their own money. For special and large machines, such as combine harvesters, assisting few farmers to complement their pool of machines seems a better and efficient way to satisfy village needs. On the other hand, the majority of farmers must renounce of purchasing such machines and pay more attention to other urgent priorities.

C. Approaching the future

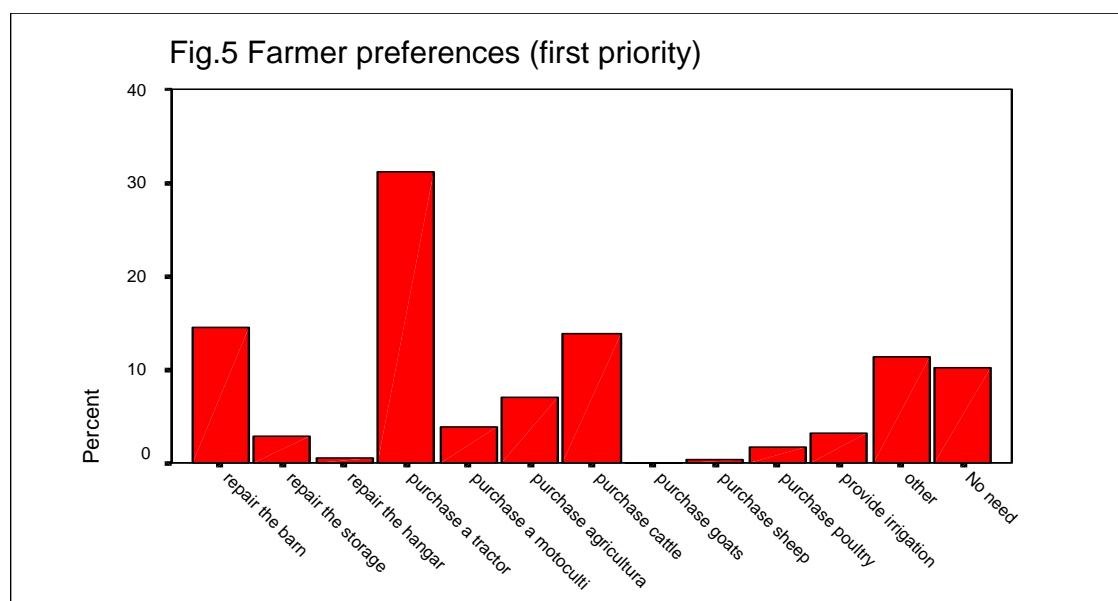
50. Considering heavy losses of population, buildings, animals and machinery, the fulfillment of production demand becomes a legitimate need. Many farmers have just made up their mind of what they need to comply with need for food, animal feed and acceptable living.

51. Major demand has been mainly for purchasing tractors, agricultural machines, cattle, poultry, and repairing the barn or the storage (tables 19.1 to 19.5). Also, there is a category of farmers (about 10.1 percent) whom did not have any priority. Probably, they belong to the category of farmers who want to quit agriculture, or people who do not know where to start given their hard household conditions. About 31.3 percent of farmers called as a first priority the purchase of tractors. In communes of Istog, Peja, Podujeva, and Prishtina this figure is above the average. People whose first choice is a tractor, in the second one ask for agricultural implements such as ploughs, harrows etc. Most preferred tractors have been *IMT*, *Rakovica* or *Masey Ferguson* of medium power. However, the demand seems a little inflated when the source of financing such investment is through the credit. Increasing the number of tractors will cause the price of services fall below the costs, compromising farmers ability to pay back the money. However, considering other reasons by so far discussed, it might not be the case in analyzing household capability to pay back the money. The situation is different for livestock as it serves to fulfil household needs for food and for fast cash.

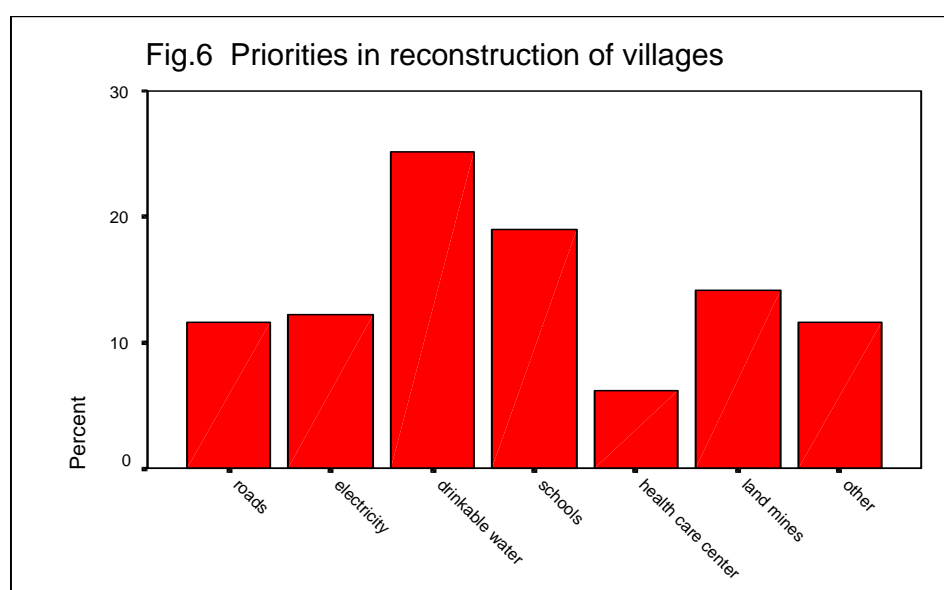
Table 8: Respective ranking of demand and priorities

Priority	Ranking of demand		
	I	II	III
I	Purchase tractor	Repair the barn	Purchase cattle
II	Purchase agriculture implements	Purchase cattle	Repair the barn
III	Purchase cattle	Purchase agriculture implements	Purchase poultry
IV	Purchase cattle	Purchase poultry	Purchase agriculture implements
V	Purchase poultry	Purchase cattle	Repair the storage

52. About 85 thousand farmers want to purchase 250 thousand cattle at an average of 2.94 heads per household (table 20.1). The most preferred breed of cattle is *Frisian* (38.1 percent), *Simmental* (17.1 percent) and *Jersey* (9.2 percent) (table 20.1.1). In general, farmers demand what is in the market. It appears also lack of knowledge regarding the use and transfer of technology. Farmers are asking again the same brands of tractors or breed of animals presently in the market. It could be some reason behind this behavior: (i) Yugoslav machinery is cheap, so every household can afford to purchase a tractor with its own savings or remittances; (ii) farmers have experience in using such a machinery; (iii) introduction and transfer of technology has been disregarded for many years.



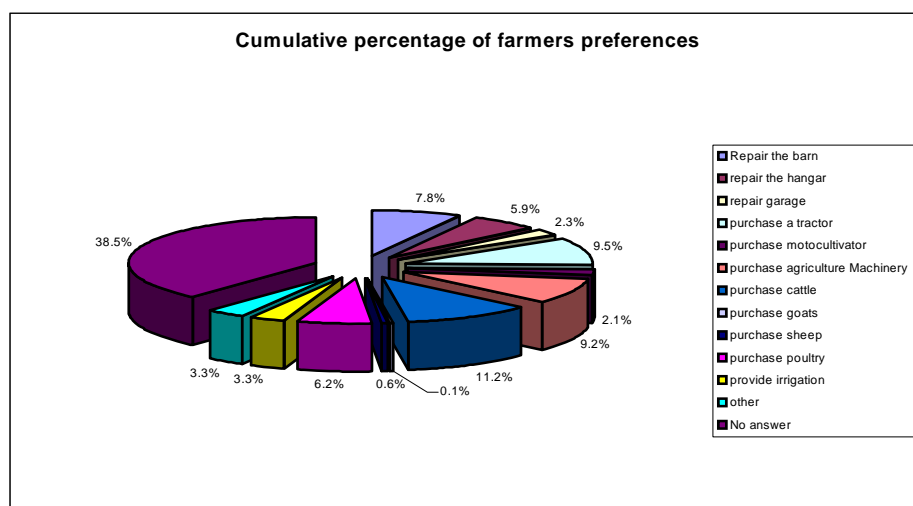
53. It is obvious that asking about people priorities, they express a desire rather than a planned action. Only 17.2 percent of farmers answered that they will finance investments with their own money (table 21). Obviously, war damages have impoverished so much the people that they have no other place to head except banks or other formal sources. As a rule, households that have not remittances from abroad base their investments on bank loans (table 21.1). There is a significant difference between households with remittances and those without concerning the role of banks in financing farm investments. That figure stand also at the village level. In addition, few areas have reported on being able to buy farm inputs. Therefore, financing the purchase of inputs could be a non-expressed priority but of importance under short-term prospect of economy restoration. However, purchase power of farmers is not only a matter of household budget (table 24A). Other factors such as macroeconomic situation, infrastructure accessibility, availability of agricultural machinery, working status of agro-industry might play a significant role in altering the demand for farm inputs. Implementation of rural fund structures seems a decent solution to face initial hardships and promote production.



54. Reconstruction of Kosovo cannot be accomplished without encouraging the community work. First of all, villages need to rebuild water supply systems, schools, power, health care centers and then roads (tables 22.1 to 22.3A).

55. About 25 percent of the village representatives named drinkable water supply as the most important problem. While, in areas of Gillogovc and Suhareke more than 55 percent of villages asked of water. In areas of Podujeve and Rahovec first priority was put on schools, while communes of Mitrovica and Peja put more emphasis on inactivation of land mines.

56. Land mines will continue to be an imminent danger for a while. A little more than 27 percent of villages have clear evidence that their territory is planted with land mines, and 25.5 percent are not sure (table 23.2A). However, farmers give a different figure (table 23.1). They feel more secure from land mines as 52.8 percent of them reports that there are no mines in their land. Inactivation of land mines means more security and confidence in the future, otherwise people will lose the willingness to invest in their land.



IV. CONCLUSIONS

A. Implication of the study

57. This survey hopefully should serve several purposes, such as:
- Display the reality of after-war Kosovo through the estimation of damages and casualties.
 - Provide international community with information before planning the type of intervention, its duration, costs, and expected results.
 - Provide Kosovo administration with an inventory of resources on agriculture to increase their working efficiency when directing actions of reconstruction and consolidation.

B. Actions to be taken

58. Kosovo needs some short-term measures that aim to establish the confidence of people to their future by demonstrating steady willingness in the remedy of most of war consequences. Therefore some measures are proposed:

- A. Foundation of Kosova Rural Fund financed by foreign donors could be an instrument in managing efficient spending of funds according to defined priorities such as:
- Rebuild roads, water supply system, schools, health care centers,
 - Invest on damaged irrigation systems in areas where water has proved a serious constraint to production.
 - Support the existing or new machinery repair centers by crediting their investments.
- B. Set up a social assistance network in assisting households and people incapable of providing their own food as consequence of the war. The most vulnerable households that lack off-farm income sources have been selected and presented in a summarized way in box 8. These households depend heavily on agriculture. Following the logic, households with less land should be the first of being considered.

Box 8: Sorting out of more vulnerable households (in percentage to household number)

Farm size in ha	Household s number	Demo lished house	No cows	No sheep	Lost tractors	Lost combines	Lost plough s	Lost sowing machines	Lost harrows
Up to 1	5798	47.7	21.2	6.5	13.0	0.0	23.5	4.0	10.5
1.01-2	9582	52.3	40.1	2.0	9.5	0.5	22.8	8.0	17.0
2.01-5	14303	52.7	28.3	3.4	13.9	2.0	19.0	9.2	19.4
5.01-10	2775	58.3	14.7	8.3	14.0	3.6	30.9	17.3	25.5
Over 10	608	77.0	0.0	4.0	18.4	0.0	20.4	0.0	27.1
Total	33066	52.6	28.7	4.0	12.7	1.4	22.0	8.5	17.8

Note: This table is applied to that category of households that reported of having no income from remittances and off-farm activities. For more details refer to illustrative tables.(V.IV)``

- C. Set up a village credit fund:
- Assists farmers to purchase agricultural inputs and livestock.
 - Establish veterinary services and provide credit for tools and medicines, in co-operation with public administration
- D. Restructuring of extension services if they exist or creating a similar service able in transferring to farmers know-how and technology.

C. Important Recommendations

59. It is recommended further specialized survey in different regions of Kosovo and different sectors of agriculture. However, it is strongly recommended to compare the data from this survey with data offered by similar surveys, such as:

- *Social-economic survey of 3,500 households in Kosovo* (90 percent of them within Kosovo and 10 percent emigrated households in Albania, Macedonia, Italy, Germany, etc). This survey was implemented during summer 1999, by *RIINVEST, Institute for Development Researches*, Prishtina
- *Individual household farm machinery survey in agricultural sector*. Implemented during July-August 1999, by *Mercy Corp International*, Office in Kosovo, in close collaboration with the *Faculty of Agriculture*, University of Prishtina.
- *Damage assessment survey*. In process of implementation since summer 1999 by the so-called “Provisory Government” of Kosovo.
- *Regional detailed damage identification*, respectively implemented by the civil administration of KFOR regional forces. More precisely, we were informed that within the German sector such survey is completed but there is no evidence how far other regions have progressed.

61. Additional qualitative research is required about several issues coming out from this survey. However, it is of crucial importance to complete also the questionnaire to 4 other communes (Zubin-Potok, Leposaviq, Dragash, Novoberd) that were practically not accessible during July – August 1999.

IV. Illustrative Tables